



**REPORT ON THE CSETI  
BRIEFINGS  
Washington, DC, USA  
7-11 April 1997**

by Steven M. Greer, M.D. ©1997

**BACKGROUND**

**C**SETI [Center for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence] founded *Project Starlight* over three and a half years ago as an initiative to identify the best scientific evidence related to UFOs and extraterrestrial intelligence. Of particular importance is the identification of bona-fide military, intelligence, government contractor and other government agency employees with direct, first-hand knowledge of the UFO/ET subject.

The goal of the CSETI *Project Starlight* initiative is to present the best available evidence and witness testimony in a manner which would constitute a definitive disclosure regarding the reality of the UFO/ET subject. This is to be done in a scientific, non-sensational and hopeful manner, assiduously avoiding an alarmist tone or emphasis.

Since 1993, Dr Steven Greer, CSETI Director, and other CSETI *Project Starlight* team members have provided preliminary briefings for White House staff, a sitting Director of Central Intelligence, senior military leaders, senior United

Nations leadership, members of the Senate and House of Representatives, international leaders and leaders in foreign governments, among others.

It has always been our intent to effect this disclosure in cooperation with the United States and other governments, if possible. We are acutely aware of the vast and profound implications of this matter and for this reason have carefully included key government figures and offices in our deliberations and plans. From the start, it was made clear that, while we desired a cooperative effort leading towards disclosure, the matter would be disclosed through a civilian-led initiative should the government choose to be uninvolved.

Through exhaustive and repeated private briefings with various government leaders, we learned that this subject was being managed in a way which kept the majority of our constitutional leadership uninformed on the subject. It became clear that we should collect the best evidence and witnesses and provide unmistakable and unambiguous information to these leaders so that they could make a decision on how to proceed. Obviously, unless the leadership was informed, there could be no chance of their disclosing any information to the public, or even of convening an open hearing and inquiry.

On 15 November 1997, a letter was sent

to all pertinent offices of the United States Government asking for a determination on the validity of national security oaths related to the UFO/extraterrestrial subject. In this letter, which is available on the CSETI website ([www.cseti.org](http://www.cseti.org)), it was stated that it was our assessment that these oaths and restrictions were null and void, since the oversight of the projects related to this subject was improper, illegal and extra-constitutional. [See Manifesto in NEXUS 4/02.]

Further, it was stated that, unless otherwise directed by 1 January 1997, we would regard all military, intelligence and other government-related witnesses to UFO/extraterrestrial projects and events as free to speak openly about what they know concerning this topic.

No corrective measures or statements—oral, written or otherwise—were submitted to us by 1 January 1997. Through back-door channels it was conveyed that we would be allowed to move forward, and that our progress was being noted by various military, intelligence, government and private groups connected to the subject.

Pursuant to the above letter, since no instructions stating otherwise were sent by the US Government, CSETI proceeded to plan a Washington, DC, Briefing for this spring, as promised.

During the week of 7-11 April, the CSETI *Project Starlight* team convened a

# THE TWILIGHT ZONE

gathering of nearly 20 first-hand government witnesses to UFO/ET events. These gatherings principally took place at the Westin Hotel in Washington, DC, although separate briefings took place at the Pentagon and elsewhere in the Washington vicinity.

All of the US Government witnesses who were present signed a statement that they are willing to testify under oath before an open hearing in the US Congress concerning the UFO/ET projects and events which they personally and directly witnessed. These government UFO witnesses spanned from the early 1950s to the 1990s, and represented events and/or projects observed while these witnesses were in the Air Force, Army, Navy, NASA, private industry and intelligence operations. Most of these witnesses had top secret clearances and were testifying regarding events which took place while they had those clearances.

It should be noted that the witnesses who were assembled during the week of 7-11 April are the courageous tip of a much larger iceberg. There are 107 such first-hand government UFO witnesses who have been identified to date, and who should be subpoenaed by the Congress to testify in open hearings. Conceptually, these witnesses may be divided into three levels:

- Level One Witnesses: These are witnesses who are ready and willing to come

forward today, as a unified coalition, to disclose what they know about the subject. There are 44 such witnesses thus far identified.

- Level Two Witnesses: These are witnesses who have been identified but feel intimidated about coming forward and request the protection of congressional hearings and the protective effect of a congressional subpoena. They number 55.

- Level Three Witnesses: These are witnesses who are known to us but who are considered probably hostile or uncooperative witnesses. They would need to be subpoenaed and treated as potentially hostile witnesses. There are at least eight such witnesses in this category.

## THE WASHINGTON BRIEFINGS 7-11 April 1997

The purposes of the events of 7-11 April were as follows:

- To gather together bona-fide first-hand government UFO witnesses to further solidify the coalition of such witnesses who are willing to come forward with definitive, unambiguous information concerning the UFO/ET subject.

- To convene a closed, confidential briefing for members of Congress, congressional staff, White House staff, military leaders and other Washington leaders on the subject, and for these leaders to hear the direct

testimony of the US Government and military witnesses. This briefing was designed to present the best scientific evidence and witness testimony to establish the reality of the subject matter, and to ask specifically for open congressional hearings on the matter.

- To conduct a background educational briefing for interested members of the media.

- To provide private briefings to other military, intelligence and political leaders as needed.

All of the objectives listed above were met.

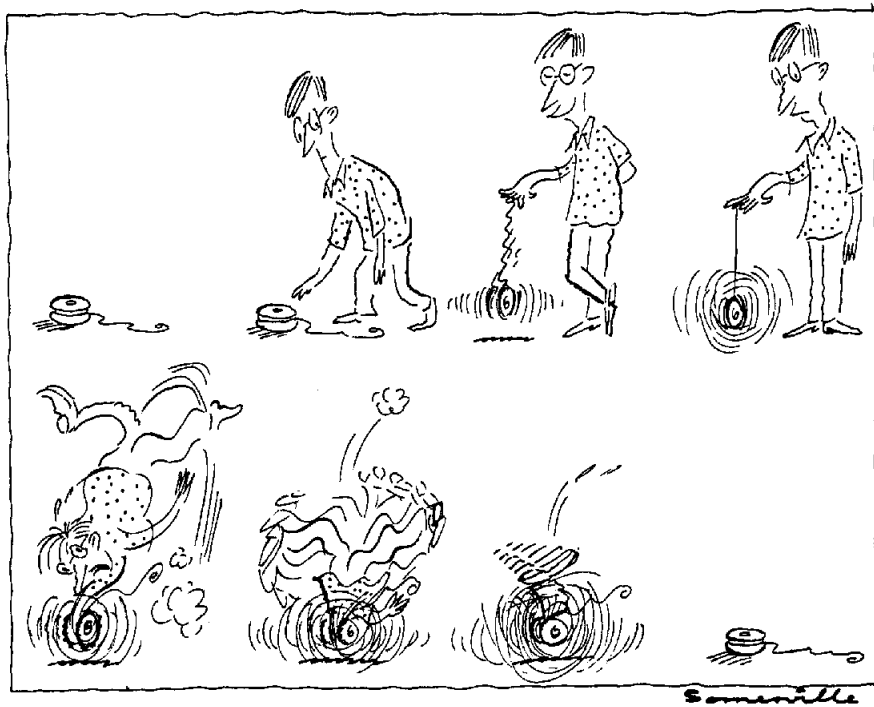
All members of Congress plus the President, Vice-President and key cabinet officials, as well as key military and intelligence leaders, were invited to the briefing. Further, they were offered the opportunity to receive private briefings at their convenience during the week.

On 9 April, a closed briefing was held for members of Congress and congressional staff, etc. Nearly 30 congressional offices were represented by either members of Congress or staff members. Also present were VIPs from the executive branch, foreign embassy staff, government scientists, representatives sent to the briefing by two state governors' offices, and many other dignitaries.

During the briefing, participants were introduced to a substantial Briefing Document which contains numerous scientific cases and over 250 pages of definitive and unambiguous US Government documents related to the subject. The government documents were selected from a larger collection of several thousand. Many were provided to CSETI by the CIA in 1994.

These participants also viewed a collection of excellent photographic, video and movie footage evidence spanning over 40 years and from every continent.

Eleven first-hand government and military witnesses were selected to testify before this group of government leaders. For over one and a half hours they provided definitive and unambiguous testimony regarding UFO/ET events. Their testimony ranged from a world-renowned astronomer who was present when an apparent extraterrestrial signal was received at the Harvard Observatory (SETI) facility; to an Eisenhower military top-secret witness who saw ET metal debris from a UFO



crash; to a NASA employee who saw a picture with a UFO, clearly in broad daylight, which was destined to be airbrushed out before release; to a Navy employee with a top-secret clearance who was present in 1981 during a major encounter off the eastern seaboard, which was tracked by satellite and radar and chased by military planes, with a resulting clear daytime photograph.

The richness of detail of this testimony and the down-to-Earth sincerity of these witnesses was very moving to the gathered officials.

At the end of the briefing, one of the congressional staffers came to the podium and, unsolicited by us, appealed to those congressional staffers and members of Congress gathered, to take definitive steps to let this information out to the public.

Numerous congressional offices represented at this historic briefing expressed a sincere desire to move this subject forward and to work with us in obtaining open congressional hearings as soon as possible. There was great enthusiasm for this, and one staffer from a congressional office has volunteered to coordinate these efforts in Washington with CSETI.

The combination of the extensive briefing materials, videotape evidence, first-hand witness testimony and the participation of so many congressional offices and other Washington leaders and dignitaries certainly constitutes the most historic civilian gathering in UFO/ET history.

In planning this event, we had hoped for positive RSVPs from five to 10 congressional offices. The participation of nearly 30 such offices, as well as representatives from the executive branch and two state governors, certainly exceeded our expectations.

Each congressional office and VIP was provided with:

- The CSETI Briefing Document and related case materials;
- The videotape summary of photographs, videos and movie footage of UFOs;
- A copy of the 1965 Edwards Air Force Base air traffic control tower

tape of multiple UFO encounters, with transcript.

Following the presentation, a number of congressional staffers remained to discuss this subject with the witnesses, CSETI staff and leaders.

On the morning of 10 April 1997, a briefing was held at the Pentagon for very senior military staff. The CSETI team present included five members: Dr Steven Greer, astronaut Edgar Mitchell, Shari Adamiak, CSETI's military advisor and an Eisenhower-era first-hand UFO/ET witness. This historic briefing lasted nearly one and a half hours and was enthusiastically received by senior Pentagon staff present.

During the afternoon, a follow-up with various congressional staffers, other Washington VIPs and the media took place.

At 7 pm there was a reception for an invitation-only media briefing. Uninvited media were not allowed into this meeting; for example, long-time debunker Phil Klass appeared without an invitation and was politely removed from the reception area. Similarly, had tabloid media appeared, they, too, would have been asked to leave. This meeting was a background educational briefing for major media only.

At 7:30 pm the media briefing began. Present were UPI, the *Boston Globe*, NBC, ABC the BBC and others. Seven first-hand witnesses provided statements to the media, and a general overview of the sub-

ject was provided by Dr Greer. Following the briefing, a question-and-answer period took place, and the media all had excellent and insightful questions.

It should be noted that the above meeting was a background press briefing, not a press conference. The purpose of the meeting was to provide scientific background materials, and to introduce the invited media to the concept of open congressional hearings on the subject. The CSETI media team felt that such a meeting would be an important step towards preparing the mainstream media for a future disclosure, and would encourage them to cover the subject in an informed and serious manner...

The time has come for the world to know that we are not alone in this vast universe. The era of excessive secrecy, which is so corrosive to a free and democratic society, must end. Working together, we can create a truly open and free society, which, through much deliberation and wise efforts, may someday take its place among other planetary civilizations.

15 April 1997

Steven M. Greer, M.D.

Director, Center for the Study of  
Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CSETI)  
PO Box 15401

Asheville, NC 28813, USA

Telephone: +1 (704) 274 5671

Fax: +1 (704) 274 6766

E-mail: Dr\_ET@compuserve.com

Website: www.cseti.org

